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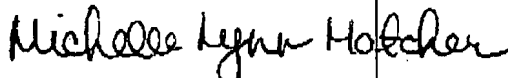
Inventor: Michelle Lynn Hatcher
2116 Wesley Court
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
(850) 556-3280
mpaulhatcher120885@comcast.net

Application Number: 10/749,362**Filing Date: December 31, 2003****Name of Invention: Designer tracheostomy tube attachment**

This correspondence is intended to reply to the office action summary received. This is in reply to the claim rejections. Amendments to claims will also be made accordingly.

In reply to the rejections, I am also amending claims. I am also sending remarks following claims.

I am requesting that a combination of the attachment and the tracheostomy tube be made. The invention is strictly to be utilized in combination with the tracheostomy tube. The invention cannot be used without the tracheostomy tube therefore I request it be in combination with the tracheostomy tube.



Michelle Lynn Hatcher

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Claim#10 (Currently Amended) 10. A designer tracheostomy tube [and other neck wearing device] attachment ~~used to provide~~ [for the purpose of providing] a decorative and colorful way to ~~secure~~ [attach] a tracheostomy tube [or other neck wearing device] comprising: a closed-ended fastener, ~~that secures~~ [for securing] the attachment to the tracheostomy tube [or other neck wearing device]; a stringing line, ~~that strings~~ [for stringing] decorative ornaments; [a split ring, for connecting the securing device to the attachment;] [a designer clamp, for the adjustable model to adjust to users desired fit;] a crimp bead, ~~that holds the~~ [for holding] attachment together at the ends. [a jump ring, for connecting the closed-ended fastener;] [an adjusting device, for adjusting fabric attachment to users desired fit; and a fabric, for fabricating the body of the fabric attachment with any suitable fabric.]

Claim# 11 (Currently Amended) 11. The designer tracheostomy tube [and other neck wearing device] attachment as recited in claim 10, further ~~comprises~~ [comprising]: [a] beads, for providing ~~decorative ornaments~~ [the ornamental body] of the attachment even though the body of the attachment may be fabricated of beads, decorative metal or any other suitable material, connected to said closed-ended fastener.

Claim# 14 (Currently Amended) 14. A designer tracheostomy tube [and other neck wearing device] attachment ~~that provides~~ [for the purpose of providing] a decorative and colorful way to ~~secure~~ [attach] a tracheostomy tube [or other neck wearing device] comprising: a closed-ended fastener, ~~that secures~~ [for securing] the attachment to the tracheostomy tube [or other neck wearing device]; a stringing line, ~~that strings the~~ [for stringing] decorative ornaments; [a split ring, for connecting the securing device to the attachment;] [a] beads, ~~that provide~~ [for providing] ~~decorative ornaments~~ [the ornamental body] of the attachment even though the body of the attachment may be fabricated of beads, decorative metal or any other suitable material, connected to said closed-ended fastener; [a designer clamp, for the adjustable model to adjust to users desired fit;] a crimp bead ~~or other suitable means, that holds the~~ [for holding] attachment together at the ends. [a jump ring, for connecting the closed-ended fastener;] [an eyelet, for connecting fabric to jump ring if desired or fabric can be sewn to jump ring so that the eyelet can be eliminated; an adjusting device, for adjusting fabric attachment to users desired fit; and a fabric, for fabricating the body of the fabric attachment with any suitable fabric.]

Remarks:

I disagree with my invention being compared to another invention that is totally different. US 6,789,542 B1 is no comparison to my invention. This invention covers the tracheostomy tube and is intended to hide it. My invention does not cover the tracheostomy tube at all. Being in the medical field for over 13 years, it is not safe to cover a tracheostomy tube. My invention does not contain a screen since it does not cover the tube. Even though the two inventions may contain some of the same materials, they are in no comparison to each other. There are other known inventions that are very similar and they are patented. There are even other tracheostomy tube holders that are patented. If I were to similar to US 6,789,542 B1 then Mr. Bischoff would have been too

similar to those patents, since the purpose of all is to hold a tracheostomy but in different ways. You can make existing patents better. I would think my invention would be safer being that it does not cover the airway. That sets us totally apart. I hope that you will seriously reconsider comparing my patent when there is clearly no comparison. I am available for any clarification or questions. Thank you in advance.